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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT

DATE DISTR.

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*USAR: economic targets, military talks, USSR. Com China,
SED influence NVA, troop exchange, USSR SGR,
recruitment Czechoslovakia, flight training
USSR, airfield construction, Bulgarian
flight training, sports organization, military*

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REFERENCES

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A. Political - Economic

1. Khrushchev's Speech of 6 Nov. 1957

Emphasizing Russia's willingness for peace and coexistence in his speech for the 40th anniversary of the October Revolution on 6 Nov, Khrushchev again proposed a summit conference. With reference to Moscow's economic targets for the next 15 years, he stated that by 1972 the USSR is to catch up with and, in some fields, even surpass present USA standards.

(Comment: Moscow is definitely keen on top-level negotiations in order to secure undisturbed long-term economic development. By demonstrating of the Soviet lead in the development of long-range rockets, Khrushchev presumably hopes to be able to negotiate from a position of strength and thus to harness the West for his own interests, without offering genuine concessions on his part. As it is, there is reason to believe that Moscow is interested in a discontinuation of atomic tests and a reduction of conventional forces. While being level with the USA in the field of scientific development of atomic weapons, Moscow will need time to catch up with the USA in the production of fissile material, allegedly for peaceful purposes. A reduction of conventional forces would bring about in the USSR an improvement of the labor situation which is bound to become more and more critical during the next few years in view of the increasing labor demand by industry and agriculture and, simultaneously, a considerable shrinkage of available labor because of the numerically weak war-time age classes. Moscow's superiority in the field of conventional forces would be retained in any case.

Talks on Near-East problems in a summit conference would in practical terms amount to a recognition of the fact that Moscow has a say in these areas, even if no agreement or demarcation of spheres of interest can be reached, which appears unlikely in the first place. It can be assumed that the USSR feels threatened by the Bagdad pact and will continue to make all efforts to break or at least paralyze it.)

2. Military Talks USSR-Red China

Eleven leading Red-Chinese military experts were ordered from Peking to take part in talks now under way in Moscow between Khrushchev, Mao and the Red Chinese Defense Minister.

(Comment: The predominantly military character of these talks is obvious. It is assumed that conversations include the question of the National-Chinese islands Quemoy and Matsu and the equipment of the Red-Chinese army with atomic weapons.)

3. Increased SED Influence on NVA

[redacted] the SED Politbureau decided in the presence of Soviet Ambassador Pushkin that NVA polit officers be subordinated to the "Commission for National Security of the SED Central Committee" headed by Erich Honecker, Paul Verner and Walter Haehnel. [redacted]

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(~~Comment:~~ This measure will result in a considerable increase in SED influence on the NVA, a development which corresponds to the new tendencies in the Eastern Bloc initiated by Zhukov's removal. It remains to be seen if the polit officers will be directly subordinate to the Central Committee.

See following supplements.)

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B. Armed Forces

I. USSR and "United" Forces (Warsaw Pact)

Total Strength


Personnel Exchange (GDR-USSR)

Between 31 Oct and 5 Nov, 5 occupied and 3 empty personnel shuttle-trains from GDR to Brest-Litovsk via Kuestrin and Frankfurt/Oder observed.

(Comment.)

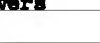
Apparently beginning of personnel exchange program. This assumption is confirmed by other indications such as personnel shipments within GDR, observation of recruits at various posts. Assumed that small-scale personnel exchange took place already prior to this date.)

II. Czechoslovakia (Recruiting and Replacement Administration)

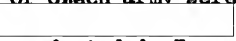

One night in early Aug 1957, trained men of the 1900-1925 age classes (Czech and German) in Saaz (UR 9776) received draft orders from local recruiting and replacement administrations (O.V.V.), accord to which they had to report at the O.V.V. immediately. At the O.V.V., they were issued 3 draft orders which they had to take to other men. By 0400, some 400 men were assembled. Along with 3-4 officers and 10 NCOs, they were moved to Wellmschloss, appr 10 km from Saaz, on requisitioned trucks and were quartered in the school there. After 2 days, they were discharged. No clothing or arms had been issued, nor had there been any exercises. The practice was reportedly directed and controlled by a Soviet officer. 

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(Comment.)

Additional indication that, during the last months, Soviet Bloc states conducted mobilization practices, possibly employing new methods in order to speed up mobilization of forces. Mobilization practices in connection with maneuvers of Czech army were reported in Pilsen area in Oct 1957. 

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 Similar exercises of Polish troops were conducted in Pomerania in Sep. 

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C. Army

I. USSR (Training in GDR)

Prior to early Nov, bulk of Soviet troops stationed at posts. In addition to small-scale training activities in and near posts, transfer of individual units for firing practices and short-term exercises near posts.

Observed were:

7-28 Oct, Klietz tng grs firing of elms 6th Arty Div/GSFG Rathenow incl 122-mm field hows, 240-mm morts and BM-24 rls

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21 Oct, 3 shpmts presun of tank units 6th Gds Tank Div/First Gds Mees Army (Tank) returned to Wittenberg from firing practices at Justerbog

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30/31 Oct, return in 2 shpmts of elms 2d Arty Brig/Second Gds Mees Army (Tank), which transferred to Altengrabow in 3 shpmts on 27 Oct

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22-27 Oct, transfer of AT unit (12x85-mm AT guns, 6x76-mm field guns), either Mees Regt/7th Gds Mees Div or u/1 AT Regt from Fuerstenwalde to Letzlinger Heide tng gr for firing pract

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22-23 Oct, exercise Engz Bn/8th Gds Mees Div Leipzig near post incl appr 45 trucks with pontoons

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(Comment. Training activities normal for this time of year.)

II. Poland

Order of Battle

In Nov 1956, 70th Mts Rifle Regt, C/O Lt Col Gajna, stationed in former Grenadier Kaserne in Stettin. The regt was subordinate to 12th Mts Rifle Div, C/O Col Majtek and was organized into 3 battalions, each of appr 230 men. Each bn incl 3 rifle cos each of 40 men, 1 machine gun co of 30 men (8 M-1943 machine guns Goryunov); 1 AAA co of 20 men (4-5x14.5-mm twin-barreled AA guns ZPU-2); 1 mort co of 40 men (2 pls, 6 M-1943 82-mm mortars). Regimental units incl 1 tank co of 20 men (5-6x 76.2-mm SP guns); 1 arty co of 50 men (10x76-mm field guns,

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10x120-mm mortars, 57-mm AA guns); 1 engr co of 25-30 men; 1 sig co of 35-40 men; 1 res pl of 20 men (sidecar motorcycles); and 1 NCO school (150-180 men).

In Oct 1955, appr 300 soldiers of the 70th Mts Rifle Regt, who had been inducted in Nov 1954, were discharged ahead of time. Except for the 70th Mts Rifle Regt, the 5th and 41st Mts Rifle Regts, both Stettin, also belonged to 12th Mts Rifle Div [redacted]

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(Comment. The 70th Mts Rifle Regt reported for the first time.

[redacted] Lt Col Gajna unknown. Col Majtek confirmed as div commander in May 1957. In spite of low strength figures of individual units, total strength of regt estimated at appr 1,000 men. Early discharge of 300 EM in Oct 1955 possibly connected with reduction of Polish Forces by 47,000 men announced in Sep 1955. The 5th and 41st Mts Rifle Regts [redacted]

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confirmed in Stettin. Thus, assumption that Stargard/Pomerania (43d Mts Rifle Regt [redacted] and 34th (?) Arty Regt) belongs exclusively to area 12th Mts Rifle Div Stettin doubtful.)

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In Apr 1957, 26th Mot Trans Bn [redacted] C/O Maj Pawlowski, stationed in former Kuerassier Kaserne in Breslau. Bn subordinate to 4th (Silesian) MD Breslau. Bn was organized into 1st (cadre) Co with 1st and 2d Mot Trans Pl (each 50 percent trucks and sedans), 3d (maintenance) Pl, and 4th (adm) Pl; 2d and 3d Co (NCO school), each of 3 Tng Pls. Each co had a strength of 160-180 EM. Equipment of bn incl sedans: 34 Warsaw M-20s, 15 GAZ-67s (four-wheel drive), 15 GAZ-79s (on blocks); trucks: 10x3.5-ton Star 20s, 40-50x2.5-ton Lublin GAZ-51s (only 20 in operation), 15-20 ZIS-150s (fuel tank and repair shop trucks), on blocks, w/1 number three-axle ZIS-150s, on blocks. NCO school trained members of various units in 9-month courses (driver's license) [redacted]

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(Comment. Info identifies known w/1 mot trans unit in former Kuerassier Kaserne Breslau as 26th Mot Trans Bn. A mot trans bn or regt also assumed to belong to army troops of mecz armies (Soviet organization). [redacted]

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Maj Pawlowski reported for the first time. Total strength of 26th Mot Trans Bn incl NCO school estimated at 700-750 EM. Compare organization of mot trans [redacted] of 11th Mecz Div Sagan. [redacted]

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III. Czechoslovakia

1. Location

Iglau (WQ 4272) permanent post of 48th Rifle Regt. After Apr 1957, regt stationed at Bolestice tng gr; not yet returned to post in

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Aug. Several 160-mm morts observed Feb 1957 [redacted]

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(Comment. 48th Rifle Regt/1st Rifle Div Budweis last confirmed in Iglau in 1956. Regt came from Tabor in the fall of 1955, succeeded tank unit which moved to Caslav. During the summers of 1952 to 1956, regt at Boletice tng gr. In 1956, stayed at tng gr after maneuvers 1st Rifle Div until after suppression of Hungarian revolution.)

2. Order of Battle

The u/i unit of bn strength stationed in Stefaniak Kaserne in Bruex (Most) at summer camp from late Apr to 8 Sep 1957. Prior to departure, 6x100-mm AT guns definitely observed in barracks area. During summer, 3 sheds, 30x15-meter, built in barracks area [redacted]

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(Comment. Bruex occupation undetermined. In addition to labor unit, Stefaniak Kaserne so far assumed to quarter only an u/i AAA unit. Late 1955, 8x88-mm (German) AA guns observed there. AT guns reported for the first time. Still undetermined, if occupation changed or reorganization took place. Also possible that 88-mm guns of observed unit which could be used as AA as well as AT guns, replaced by 100-mm AT guns-M 44.)

IV. Bulgaria (Exercises and Maneuvers)

On 13 Sep, captain on leave called back to his unit in Stara Zagora, 80 km NE Plovdiv, for 10-day maneuver in Hermanlii/Martza area, 100 km ESE Plovdiv [redacted]

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Acc to Bulgarian railroadman. Bulgarian army at maneuvers in [redacted]

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On 21 Oct, recently discharged Bulgarian soldiers called back to their units. Dischargees on their way home were stopped in Kula. 150 km NW Sofia and had to go back [redacted]

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(Comment. Indication of fall maneuvers Bulgarian army. Stara Zagora believed to be post of 8th Rifle Div. Calling-back of recent dischargees, probably of 1935-class. [redacted])

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D. Air Forces

I. USSR

1. Location of Troops

Khuguyev (49 51 N/36 39 E) airfield was continuously occupied by about 35 MiG-15s from 1953 to March 1957. Beginning 1954, some twin-jet aircraft, about 10 in 1957, were also observed there. A portion of the troops including aircraft transferred to Kapustarnovka emergency airfield, about 15 km west of Itsyum (41 12 N/37 19 E) from May to October every year [redacted]

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(Comments: Khuguyev airfield has presumably been occupied by a Soviet fighter regiment since 1953. The reported number of twin-jet aircraft and the time of observation indicate that the aircraft are Flashlights.)

At Budapest-Matyasfold (47 30 N/19 12 E) airfield, a single-engine conventional aircraft and two helicopters were observed in early July 1957. Soviet sentries were posted at the entrance of the airfield [redacted]

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(Comments: Budapest-Matyasfold airfield is obviously still occupied by Soviets but no Soviet flying unit.)

2. Command and Training of Troops

On 18 October 1957, 3 jet fighters dropped bombs over Kummerdorf bombing range at intervals of 20 to 45 minutes. Each jet fighter made 3 attacks.

1st attack: Approach at 2,000 meters, dropping of 2 bombs at the same time, departure at 1,000 meters.

2nd and 3rd attack: Firing with aircraft armament from an altitude of 500 to 150 meters, after approaching at 2,000 meters. [redacted]

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On 23 October throughout the day, a major number of MiG-17s dropped bombs over Kummerdorf bomb range under similar conditions as on 18 October [redacted]

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(Comments: [redacted] MiG-17s of Ftr Regt Altenburg practiced on 18 Oct and MiG-17s of Ftr Regt Marseburg on 23 Oct.)

Further reports mentioned bombing by Ftr Regt Koethen on 8 June 1957, Ftr Regt Marseburg on 7 June 1957, and Ftr Regt Zerbst on 19 September 1957 [redacted]

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(Comment: Bombing practices by MiG-17 fighters have now been reliably reported for the first time. It is assumed that bomb-training has been included in the training program of Soviet fighters, at least of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army. This permits the conclusion that, following the Western pattern, the Soviet fighter-bombers will replace ground attack aircraft which were withdrawn from the Soviet Zone of Germany in 1956 and were allegedly dissolved. It remains to be seen whether only a portion or all tactical fighters will be assigned the missions of fighter bombers or if special fighter-bomber units will be activated later on. It cannot yet be foreseen whether the fighter-bomber units will be a final replacement for the ground attack units or whether, according to the Western pattern, heavy and light fighter-bombers will be distinguished.)

3. Logistics

It was determined in October 1957 that the four underground bunkers in Rochlin-Laern, Ribnitz, Merseburg and Erfurt are to be completed in the late fall of 1957 [redacted]

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(Comment: This information was confirmed. Construction costs for each bunker are 1,600,000 eastmarks.)

Construction work at Cochstedt airfield was stopped on 31 October 1957. No resumption of work is envisaged [redacted]

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(Comment: Plans for airfield extension work, while at first postponed to 1958 due to insufficient construction capacity in 1957, have now been cancelled because of financial difficulties. [redacted] the means for air force construction projects were reduced by 50 percent.)

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It was determined on 31 October 1957 that Allstedt airfield is scheduled to be completed and turned over still in 1957 [redacted]

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(Comment: This information seems to be correct since only repair work on damaged spots on the runway is required.)

II. GDR

1. Command and Training of Troops

Dessau and Brandenburg-Briest airfields belong to Air Transport School in Dessau. Training is conducted with IL-14s in Dessau and with AN-2s in Brandenburg-Briest. The members of the 2nd Tng Regt of Kamens Fighter School were transferred from Brandenburg/

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Briest to Rothenburg in March-April 1957 []

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(Comment: The flight training program of fighter pilots had to be rearranged because Yak-11s are no longer available. Student pilots who terminated training with Yak-18s apparently are trained subsequently with U-MiG-15s.)

Training Program:

1st year, initial training with Yak-18s at Kamenz Fighter School
2nd year, stunt flying with Yak-18s and retraining with U-MiG-15s at Rothenburg; Fighter School
3rd year, training with MiG-15s and MiG-17s, also at Rothenburg Fighter School.)

7th Ftr Wing

4th Sq Drewitz, 2nd year, training with U-MiG-15s
3rd year, training with MiG-15s and MiG-17s

(Comment: The 4th Sq of the 7th Ftr Wing Drewitz is apparently confirmed as training squadron of the 3rd Ftr Div. No information has been received so far on the 1st Ftr Div. It is unknown for which period the Yak-11s will not be available for training practices.)

2. Logistics

On 8 November 1957, there was still little construction activity at Bautzen-Litten airfield. NVA/L sentries were posted at the fuel dump where jet fuel was stored. The airfield will be put into operation on 1 January 1958 []

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(Comment: Construction of the runway was completed. The airfield will be used for MiG-15 training of NVA/L pilots.)

III. Poland

1. Location of Troops

Zendek (50 29 N/19 05 E) airfield had been occupied by one regiment with MiG-15s and one independent air force unit with about 15 IL-10s prior to November 1956 []

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In late March 1957, it was occupied by 35 MiG-15s and about 55 officer pilots []

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(Comment: Zendek airfield is believed to be occupied by one Polish fighter regiment with MiG-15s and one independent reconnaissance squadron with IL-10s. The 55 pilots presumably belong to the fighter regiment.)

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IV. Bulgaria

1. Location of Troops

On 7 October 1957, Plovdiv (42 07 N/24 47 E) airfield was occupied by 28 IL-10s. On 6 October 1957, Krumovo (42 04 N/24 51 E) airfield was occupied by about 42 single-engine conventional aircraft and about 38 single-jet aircraft [redacted]

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(Comment: According to previous assumption, Plovdiv and Krumovo airfields were occupied by a ground attack division of the Bulgarian Air Force, with the headquarters and one regiment stationed in Plovdiv and the other two regiments in Krumovo. The observed jet aircraft, presumably Yak-23s as inferred from the description, indicate that the division was reequipped.)

2. Command and Training of Troops

Sofia-Boshurishte (42 45 N/23 12 E) airfield, formerly occupied by military units, was used for flight training of DOSO personnel (a voluntary organization for sport and defense) [redacted]

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(Comment: It is believed that the airfield was formerly occupied by a fighter regiment of the Bulgarian Air Force equipped with conventional aircraft.)

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Annex to Part C, I, []

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1. Details on Par "Training"

7-28 Oct, Klietz tng gr: firing practices with 122-mm field
hows, 240-mm morts and BM-24 rls []

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(Comment. Presum elms 18th How Arty Brig, elms 65th Mort Brig
and elms 25th Gds RL Brig/6th Arty Div from Rathenow at firing
practices.)

21 Oct, 3 shpmts Forst Zinna - Wittenberg []

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(Comment. Return presum tank elms 6th Gds Tank Div/First Gds
Mees Army (Tank) from firing.)

30/31 Oct, 2 shpmts Magdeburg distr - Dallgow []

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(Comment. Presum return elms 2d Arty Brig/Second Gds Mees Army
(Tank) which transferred to Altensradow for firing in 3 shpmts
on 27 Oct []

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22 Oct, 1 shpmt incl 12x85-mm AT guns, 6x76-mm field guns and
trucks Fuerstenwalde - Jaevenitz []

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27 Oct, 1 shpmt Greifswald distr - Fuerstenwalde []

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(Comment. Possibly short-term firing practices by elms Mees
Regt/7th Gds Mees Div or elms of an u/i AT Regt from Fuersten-
walde at Letslinger Heide troop tng gr.)

22 Oct, Kaserne Heiterblick (8242), Leipzig: departure of 2
columns with appr 45 trucks loaded with pontoons in direction
Taucha.

23 Oct, return of trucks with pontoons which had departed on
22 Oct []

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(Comment. Presum exercise near post by 133d Gds Engr Bn/8th Gds
Mees Div.)

2. U/i Shipments (not included in other data)

16 Oct, 1 shpmt Greifswald distr - Cottbus distr

19 Oct, 1 shpmt Cottbus distr - Frankfurt/Oder

19 Oct, 1 shpmt Halle distr - Schwerin distr

21 Oct, 1 shpmt Cottbus distr - Greifswald distr

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23 Oct, 1 shpmt Jueterbog - Magdeburg distr
29 Oct, 1 shpmt Jueterbog/Altes Lager - Halle distr
31 Oct, 1 shpmt Jueterbog/Altes Lager - Halle distr
1 Nov, 2 shpmts Jueterbog/Altes Lager - Halle distr
2/3 Nov, 1 shpmt Halle distr - Jueterbog/Altes Lager
3 Nov, 1 shpmt Cottbus distr - Greifswald distr
4 Nov, 1 shpmt Jueterbog/Altes Lager - Halle distr

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3. Personnel Exchange

Date	Weight (in tons)	From	To
30/31 Oct	650	Cottbus distr	Brest-Litovsk
31 Oct	600	Cottbus distr	Kuestrin
31 Oct	600	Cottbus distr	Kuestrin
31 Oct	850	Cottbus distr	Brest-Litovsk
31 Oct	800	Greifswald distr	Cottbus distr
1/2 Nov	800	Greifswald distr	Kuestrin
2 Nov	900	Cottbus distr	Kuestrin
4/5 Nov	800	Fuerstenberg	Brest-Litovsk

(Comment. Presum planned transport movements for 1957 personnel exchange started. It may be assumed that shpmts up to 650 tons are empty, while those with more than 800 tons are loaded with discharges.

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